

**THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW ALBANY,  
INDIANA HELD A MEETING IN THE CITY/COUNTY BUILDING  
ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2006.**

The meeting of the **New Albany City Council** was called to order by President Jeff Gahan at 7:30 p.m. The meeting opened with the Lord's Prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Council Members Mr. Coffey, Mr. Price, Mr. Schmidt, Mr. Kochert, Mr. Blevins, Mr. Messer, Mr. Seabrook, and President Jeff Gahan. Mrs. Crump was not present.

**OTHERS:** City Attorney Shane Gibson and City Clerk Marcey Wisman.

**ALSO:** John Rosenbarger, Adam Dickey, Scott Wood, Planning and Zoning, Brian Dixon, EMC, Paul Wheatley, Economic Development Director, and Mayor James E. Garner, Sr.

**APPROVAL OR CORRECTION OF THE FOLLOWING MINUTES:**

**COMMUNICATIONS – PUBLIC:**

**Liz Vissing**, spoke regarding an old house on 525 E. Market next to St. Elizabeth's home. She stated that the house is horrible condition and she would like to know who owns the house. There is a horrible rodent problem with the house and structure of the building is deplorable. If the owners do not plan to do anything with the house they would like to see the house torn down.

**Mr. LaDuke** stated that he was at the house recently and the new owners, New Directions, and they were in the process of re-doing the house. He is not sure if they have stopped the work because it was going to cost too much, but he will call Danny Flannigan to see what is happening.

**Mr. Price reported that he spoke with both the building commissioner and John Rosenbarger**

**COMMUNICATIONS – CITY OFFICIALS:**

**Steve Price** stated that Ben McLaughlin wanted to thank the Street Department for helping with his leaf problem. He also reported that he spoke with Yellow Ambulance regarding the gentleman from Kaisers who had a heart attack and died. They informed him that they were there within 17 minutes and that the gentleman died two hours after he was in the Emergency Room while they were cleaning the arteries in his neck. He then read a report regarding the horrible condition of 525 E. Market Street. Said report is on file with the City clerk's office.

**Mr. Kochert** commented on the Yellow Ambulance. He read a report that was in the newspaper regarding the importance of quick response to heart attack victims.

**Mr. Coffey** asked to amend the agenda to add a resolution that he mistakenly did not get into the City Clerk's office.

**Mr. Schmidt** reported that he went to the housing Authority and they opened the bids for garbage pick up. He stated that Southern Indiana Waste was the lowest bidder at \$8.57 per household and they would supply the cans. He stated that there was not a bid from the City and he thought that the Mayor had said that they would be putting a bid in at the last council meeting. He also wondered why Southern Indiana Waste could pick up the

garbage at the housing authority for so much cheaper than what they pick up the city garbage.

**Mr. Kochert** reported that there was one of the City's big red truck out on St. Joe Road and wanted to know why our trucks were picking up garbage in this area.

**There was a lengthy discussion regarding the city's garbage pick up.**

**Mr. Price** asked Mr. Rosenbarger to comment on 525 E. Market.

**Mr. Rosenbarger** stated that the largest amount the city would put towards its repair would be \$5,000 but that does not stop someone from getting money from other agencies. He informed Mr. Hartman that he can take independent action on the house.

**Chief Harl** reported on the DROP program and stated that we need to hire at least 3 to 5 new officers. He explained that he has two that he can hire immediately and two others that he can get on in about three months. He also asked them to do something with the resolution for police cars because he needs new cars. He report that the code enforcement officer's car is down and he will not have a spare car in about 4 to 5 months for her to drive.

**There was a lengthy discussion regarding how long it takes to get an officer on the force.**

**Ms. Wisman** read the minutes from the Ambulance Committee meeting that set out there recommendations. Said minutes are on file with the City Clerk's office.

**Mr. Kochert** stated that they would receive 100% at the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> year not the beginning.

**Mr. Coffey** stated that the reason he created the ordinances that he has on the agenda this evening was because at the meeting he attended there was only finger pointing and nothing was accomplished. He felt that someone needed to do something to move this problem forward.

**Mr. Gahan** asked that the council take a look at the committee's recommendations for consideration down the road.

**Mr. Price** asked if there was anything on paper showing how much the savings would be with this plan.

**Mr. Messer** stated that the new hires would not be paid 100% until after 5 years and that will save money.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS – MAYOR:**

**Mayor Garner** stated that the problem with the ambulance service is about the money.

**Mr. Price** asked if we are budgeting for 80 firefighters and we only have 72 where is that money going.

**Mayor Garner** stated that needs to be looked into.

**There was a lengthy discussion regarding the budgeting problems for the fire department.**

**Mr. Price** asked that if we want to bring the ambulance back on do we need \$90,000.

**Mayor Garner** stated that he feels we actually need \$50,000 each month.

**There was a lengthy discussion regarding what is needed in man power and money to bring the ambulance back on line.**

**APPOINTMENTS:**

**APPROVAL OF CF-1 FORMS:**

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

**Mr. Coffey made a motion to suspend the rules to amend the agenda to include a resolution to provide funds for the New Albany Fire Department, Mr. Price second, all voted in favor.**

**Mr. Gahan** stated that this would be read at the end of the meeting.

R-06-41        Resolution Declaring An Emergency Requiring the  
Temporary Transfer of Funds from a Prescribed Period  
To a Depleted Fund for Cash Flow Purposes Only

**Mr. Price reported that Kay asked that this be pulled because she no longer needed the loan.**

R-06-42        Resolution to Provide Needed Funds to Repair Storm  
Damage

**Mr. Coffey introduced R-06-42 and motioned for the reading by title only, Mr. Schmidt second,**

**Mr. Coffey** explained that the system worked until the heavy storm in September when rock and dirt was washed into the drain from the hill.

**Mr. Messer** voiced concerns over putting more money into this project when they have already spent \$36,000 and it doesn't work.

**Mr. Coffey** explained that it did work in normal rain conditions, but that during the large storms in September a lot of debris was washed into it and it needs to be cleaned out.

**There was a lengthy discussion regarding the needed work in the Cedar Street area and whether or not this has been looked at by the Storm water drainage board.**

**all voted in favor by show of hands.**

G-06-19        An Ordinance Amending Section 32.80 of the Code  
Of Ordinances.

**Mr. Coffey introduced G-06-19 for first reading by title only, Mr. Schmidt second,**

**Mr. Messer** asked if this amendment is legal because it does not address the other sections of the current ordinance.

**Mr. Ulrich** said that you could amend ordinances in a piece meal fashion.

**There was a lengthy discussion regarding the ordinance and how or if it is any different than what is already on the books and why the ordinance that had been worked on in 2004 and 2005 did not pass.**

**Mr. Coffey tabled this ordinance.**

A-06-19          Additional Appropriation (Local Law Grant)

**Mr. Messer introduced A-06-19 for second and third readings by title only, Mr. Coffey second, all voted in favor. Bill A-06-19 became Ordinance A-06-45**

R-06-43          Resolution to Provide Funds for the New Albany Fire Department  
Ambulance Service

**Mr. Coffey moved amend the \$90,000 to \$75,000, Mr. Price second, all voted in favor.**

**Mr. Coffey introduced R-06-43 for reading in full, Mr. Price second, all voted in favor.**

There being no further business before the council, the meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Gahan, President  
Common Council, City of New Albany

ATTEST:\_\_\_\_\_  
Marcey Wisman, City Clerk